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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

TO: Examiner Peter Paras
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Art Unit 1632

FAX #: (703) 308-8724

FROM: Sonia K. Guterman: *KG*

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Bahramian et al.
Appln. No.: 09/472,558
Filed: December 27, 1999
Invention: MUTING GENE ACTIVITY USING A TRANSGENIC NUCLEIC ACID

Grp./Art Unit: 1632
Examiner: Paras, Jr., P.
Docket No.: 2498/101 (new)

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231, to Examiner Peter Paras, Art Unit 1632, fax number (703) 308-8724, telephone number (703) 308-8340, on September 10, 2001.

Sonia K. Guterman
Sonia K. Guterman, Ph.D.

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDED RESPONSE B

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 14, 2001 and the telephonic conference dated Sept. 7, 2001 with the Examiners, please amend the application as follows.

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-10, 12, 19-21, 26-27, 50 and 52, and amend claims 11, 17-18, 22 and 24 as follows:

11. (Twice amended) A method for muting expression of an endogenous gene in a cultured population of animal cells, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a muting nucleic acid composition having a sequence that is homologous to a sequence in the endogenous gene; and
- (b) delivering the muting nucleic acid into the population of cells under conditions devoid of a selection for integration of the nucleic acid into a chromosomal site, so that expression of the endogenous gene in the population as a whole is inhibited even though such gene's sequence is not therein disrupted.